

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

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USIAC

FOR CU

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION USIA WASHDC INFO KATHMANDU NEW DELHI
AND KABUL FEB 19 REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

FOR INA, ICS, IBS, IPS

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT : CHARLIE BYRD TRIO'S DACCA VISIT

1. DACCA DUG CHARLIE BYRD TRIO, WHICH ENDED EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL
FIVE-DAY VISIT FEB.19 AND LEFT FOR KATHMANDU.

2. HIGHLIGHTS WERE FEB.15 RECEPTION AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE,
WITH 20-MINUTE SOLO BY CHARLIE, FOR AUDIENCE OF 70 INCLUDING
CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL, MEDIA AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS; FEB.17
CONCERT AT BANGLADESH ACADEMY OF FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS FOR
AN EXTRAORDINARILY LARGE CROWD ESTIMATED AT 1,400 AND FEB.18
CONCERT IN BALLROOM OF HOTEL INTERCONTINENTAL FOR ELITE AUDI-
ENCE OF 400. ALL THREE AUDIENCES WERE DELIGHTED.

3. TRIO ALSO TAPED TWO TV PROGRAMS, ONE INCLUDING INTERVIEW,
AND A RADIO INTERVIEW PROGRAM WHICH WILL INCLUDE USIS CONCERT
RECORDINGS.

4. VISIT WAS KICKED OFF FEB.14 WITH A RECEPTION AT CAO'S RESIDENCE
WHICH INTRODUCED TRIO TO 20 LEADING LOCAL MUSICIANS AND INCLUDED
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A SITER RECITAL.

5. EVERYWHERE, TRIO MIXED EASILY AND AFFABLY WITH BANGALEES AND WERE APPRECIATED AS FRIENDLY, UNPROTENTIONS AMERICANS AS WELL AS SUPERB MUSICIANS.

6. REVIEW OF ARTS ACADEMY CONCERT IN DAILY SANGBAD (A PRO-SOVIET PAPER) FEB.18 WAS HEADLINED: "CHARLIE BYRD'S GUITAR CONCERT WINS HEARTS OF DACCA AUDIENCE." AUTHOR WROTE: "ONE OF WORLD'S MOST OUTSTANDING GUITARISTS, CHARLIE BYRD, WON THE HEARTS OF HIS BANGLADESH AUDIENCE WITH HIS SCINTILLATING CONCERT...(AND WAS) GREETED WITH LOUD APPLAUSE AFTER EVERY NUMBER. HIS BROTHER GENE BYRD ON THE BASS GUITAR AND BILL REICHENBACH ON THE DRUMS PROVIDED EXCELLENT ACCOMPANINENT."

7. DURING ARTS ACADEMY CONCERT, JOURNALIST SENT BY DAILY BANGLADESH OBSERVER TO COVER IT ASKED APAO TO WRITE THE REVIEW. HE DASHED ONE OFF BEFORE THE CONCERT ENDED, AND II APPEARED FEB.18 -- ATTRIBUTED TO A STAFF CORRESPONDENT -- UNDER HEADLINE "CHARLIE BYRD TRIO ENTHRALLS AUDIENCE." FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, OBSERVER SAID TRIO WAS "A SMASH HIT ... BEFORE AN ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD OF OVER 1,000 MUSIC LOVERS...PLAYING AN EXTREORDINARY VARIETY OF PIECES...THE ACCOMPLISHED TRIO CAPTIVATED THE AUDIENCE." GENE(JOE) BYRD AND BILL REICHENBACH" WERE NO LESS APPRECIATED THAN THE MASTER GUITARIST HIMSELF. FOR DACCA JAZZ FANS WITH LONG MEMORIES, IT WAS REPEAT OF THE GROUP'S TRIUMPHANT VISIT TO DACCA IN 1968. THE INTERVIEWING YEARS HAVE, IF ANYTHING, BROUGHT THEIR MUSIC TO A HIGHER PEAK OF PERFECTION."

8. OTHER REVIEWS WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS PUBLISHED.

9. SEND US MORE CHARLIE BYRDS.

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